

A Regular Meeting was held May 19, 2026 at Hutchinson Hall, Newark Valley at 7:00 P.M. The following Board members were present:

Present:

Kathleen Grant, Supervisor
Warren Smith, Councilmember
Joseph Tomazin, Jr. Councilmember
Brett Walter, Councilmember
Lucy Johnson, Councilmember

Also Present:

Jim Marzen, Neal Clinehens, Doug Cornwell, Jennifer Slade, Antoinette Chvatal

Meeting Called to Order

Supervisor Grant called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Grant led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Minutes

Resolution #60-2026

**Approval of Board Minutes From
April 21st & May 5th 2026**

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, and seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Town Board approved the board minutes from April 21st & May 5th 2026.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Walter- AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Privilege of the Floor

Neal Clinehens discussed the historian budget as there is no money. Would like to get money reinstated. Supervisor Grant discussed that she will speak to Bookkeeper tomorrow. Original budget was \$450.00, thinking a \$1,000.00 a year.

Jennifer Slade and Antoinette discussed and presented a letter regarding 135 Chamberlain Rd. There was a lengthy discussion on several things.

- ❖ DEC was called last year and they were going to come out, didn't know the outcome – they didn't follow-up.
- ❖ Concern on their property values, no one would want to buy a home up there.

- ❖ Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski has been keeping on top of them and the Judge does have a say in what they have to do.
- ❖ Supervisor Grant discussed being where they are at and as Supervisor it is not the same.
- ❖ Supervisor Grant had spoken with someone from the state and this call is being returned from a year ago before her position.
- ❖ There isn't enough money for the small towns
- ❖ Death of a child on the property
- ❖ They clean up some and then becomes a mess again
- ❖ Town has a law that the town can clean up the property but the county doesn't reimburse
- ❖ Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski discussed that the town has a local law on Junkyards
- ❖ Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant has asked them to keep vehicles out of the roadway
- ❖ Councilmember Walter discussed sending violations to them again
- ❖ DEC has been there twice and nothing found
- ❖ DSS has been called over the child and the person whom called will never call them again

Lindsey Johnson Attorneys to the town is going to look to see if we have more grounds. Councilmember Smith had asked if we would get money for the metal if the town cleaned it up. Highway superintendent Joe Tennant discussed that if the town did the clean-up that we would have to store the stuff for 30 days. Condemning a home is another ball game. Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski briefly discussed that he got a call from the state.

Jim Marzen discussed that the planning board met last week. They are working on the language and AI to see what they can pull out of it also, discuss fines as the Judge needs to get tired of seeing them.

Highway Report

Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant discussed that the cab & Chassis are in for the truck and its \$174,129.00. Haven't heard anything on CHIPS. Have started working on the dirt roads along with grader work. Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant also briefly discussed hiring Bill Ackley part time starting June 1, 2026.

New Business

Supervisor Grant briefly discussed appointing Catherine Kozemko as the Assessor Clerk.

Resolution #61-2026**Appoint Catherine Kozemko as the Assessor Clerk**

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Tomazin, the Town Board approved appointing Catherine Kozemko as Assessor Clerk.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Walter- AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Supervisor Grant discussed that withdraw for the FEMA grant for the Sheldon property is all finished up.

Budget Modifications & Transfers**Resolution #62-2026****Approve Budget Modifications & Transfers as Discussed**

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, and seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Town Board approved the following budget modifications & transfers as discussed.

Transfer:

\$389.00 **From** **A1990.4 Contingency** **To** **A1910.4 Unallocated Insurance**
\$2,685.00 **From** **A1480.4 Public Information & Services C.E.** **To** **A1460.4 Records Management C.E**

Note: I recommend to transfer the maintenance fee through December so a transfer will not be needed each month (Over as of 5/19- \$2505.00 add \$30,000* 6 = 180) = \$2,685.00

Budget Modifications

\$1,000.00 **From** **B1990.4 Contingency** **To** **B3620.1 Code and Fire PS**
\$1,500.00 **From** **B3620.4 Code Enforcement CE** **To** **B3620.1 Code and Fire PS**
\$500.00 **Fund Balance** **To** **B3620.11 Code and Fire PS**

Assessor Modification

\$4738.71 From A1355.1 Assessor PE To A1355.12 Assessor Clerk PS

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Walter- AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Resolution #63-2026

**Authorize to Create Account A1355.12 in Budget
With Amount of \$4,738.71**

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, and seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Town Board approved to create account A1355.12 in Budget with amount of \$4,738.71

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Walter- AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Financial Report

Resolution #64-2026

Approve Financial Report for May

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, and seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Town Board approved the financial report for May.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Walter- AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Old Business

Supervisor Grant briefly discussed that Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski received a call from the state. Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski discussed that they wanted all paperwork on Chamberlain Rd, he is waiting on them.

Department & Council Reports

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski discussed that Ketchumville Rd is getting cleaned up as they hired a contractor. They have 3 weeks to get it cleaned up. Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski talked with Karen Williams. He would like to see our Law changed from 2 junk cars to 1 vehicle. Law would need a modification. He also sent David Aingworth another violation and gave him 15 days to remove vehicles on Murphy Lane.

Dog Control

No report

Council Members & Committees

Planning Board

Highway Bills

Resolution #65 -2026

Highway Bills

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Walter, the Town Board authorizes the payment of Highway Bill Vouchers H35 to H48, inclusive in the amount of \$55,766.91.

Councilmember Smith - AYE

Councilmember Tomazin – AYE

Councilmember Walter- AYE

Councilmember Johnson - AYE

Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

General Bills

Councilmembers discussed the vouchers and there were a few questions on a few asking why they are on general side and not highway. They will be reviewed.

Resolution #66-2026

General Bills

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, and seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Town Board authorizes the payment of General Bills A112 to A146, inclusive in the amount of \$17,664.29.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Walter- AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Executive Session

Purpose of this is to discuss a personnel issue.

Resolution #67-2026

Enter Executive Session

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Tomazin, the Town Board agreed to enter executive session at 8:23pm.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Walter- AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Resolution #68-2026

Exit Executive Session

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, and seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Town Board agreed to exit executive session at 8:50pm.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Walter- AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 pm.

The next Scheduled Meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora L Corson
Town Clerk